Lack of employment opportunity abroad

808. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI: Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that even the H1B Visa quota given by India could not be filled up because of enough employment opportunity is not available in that country;

(b) whether it is a fact that many NRIs in USA already employed who have lost their jobs are facing financial difficulties; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to help such people in different countries including USA?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) As per information available a total number of 46,700 petitions for H1B visas have been filed against 65,000 H1B visa cap for 2010.

(b) Indians working in the US, like others have been affected by the recession which has resulted in unemployment rate of 10.2% in October 2009. However no representation from Indian workers in the US has been received by the Mission.

(c) The Mission in Washington has requested the US authorities that H1B visa holders who lost their jobs be allowed sufficient time for winding up his or her affairs or locating another job.

Attack on Indian students in Australia

†809. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attacks on Indian students in Australia have not stopped yet;

(b) the number of students attacked so far;

(c) the number of persons admitted in hospitals and who is taking care of them;

(d) whether any sustainable mechanism is available with the Embassy to tackle this problem;

(e) whether Government proposes to send a parliamentary group there; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI): (a) The number of attacks has decreased in the recent past as a result of various intervention measures taken by the Australian authorities at the instance of the Government of India.

(b) The exact number of attacks is not known as the information is not made available to

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.